# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RURAL DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:78
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2015
Skill Development under MGNREGS
Patil Shri A.T. (Nana);Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government proposes to link Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) with skill development programme and expand the area of work to cover skill jobs, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to train Barefoot Technicians (BFTs) for supervising works under MGNREGS, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure creation of quality and sustainable assets under the scheme especially in most backward areas of the country, State/UT-wise?

## Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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Statement in reply to Parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 78 for 03.12.2015

(a): The Government has formulated a "Project for Livelihoods in Full Employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Project LIFE-MGNREGA)" in April 2015. The project has been formulated in consultation with Deen Dayal Upadhaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojna (DDU-GKY) and National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

The Project LIFE-MGNREGA aims at promoting self reliance and improving the skill base of the youth members in age group of 18 to 35 years (18 to 45 years in case of women and SC/ ST) of MGNREGA households, and thereby improving the livelihood of these HHs, so that they can move from current status of partial employment to full employment. All State Governments were advised to prepare the plan in this regard. An outlay of Rs.100 crore has been kept under Capacity building fund under MGNREGA.

(b): The Ministry of Rural Development has initiated process of training Barefoot Technicians in 4 pilot States viz. Rajasthan, Kerala, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. 65 Trainers from the State Department, Civil Society Organisations and Project Implementing Agencies are undergoing a training of Trainers at National Institute of Rural Development from 20-30th November 2015.

The modules for the training have been developed with the International Labour Organisation and are available on the Ministry's website. The training for batches of Barefoot Technicians will start in their respective State Institute of Rural Development from15th December 2015. The Project will be extended to other States in phases.

(c): Steps taken by the Government to ensure creation of quality and sustainable assets under MGNREGS, across the country are as follows:

i. Intensive Participatory Planning Exercise (IPPE)/ Mission Antyodaya by the Block Resource Teams trained by the Ministry is being carried out in all the backward blocks, so that in the annual labour budget & shelf of projects, being prepared for the year 2016-17, assets of durable & productive nature to ensure sustainability of livelihood.

ii. Para 4(2) of Schedule-1, MGNREGA amended recently that, "District Programme Coordinator shall ensure that at least 60% of works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water & trees".

iii. For more clarity, vide Ministry Circular No. J-11017/41/2012-MGNREGA (UN) (Pt II) dated 17th September, 2014, "clarification on MGNREGA works directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water & trees" have been issued.

iv. 'SAMARTHYA' Technical Training Manual (MGNREGA) has been prepared by the Ministry & imparted technical training to 260 members of State Technical Resource Teams (STRTs) of 31 States/ UTs from 23rd March, 2015 to 11th September, 2015. STRTs are imparting technical training to District & Block Technical Resource Teams with the target to train all the engineers & technical persons implementing MGNREGS.

v. In 207 backward blocks, Cluster Facilitation Teams have been created who are working in the blocks for creation of assets of good quality & durable nature.